Serial No.: 09/987,380 Attorney's Docket No.: TOTO0004-US

Art Unit: 2861 Page 2

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

## **Listing of Claims:**

1-8. (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) A method for forming a mark comprising the steps of:

forming a plating layers on a base;

forming a mask on the surface of said plating layers;

providing a concave portion or a concavo-convex portion on the surface of the base said

plating layers by laser marking which penetrates the mask;

applying a color thereto with ink or paint; and

removing the mask;

wherein whereby a colored mark is obtained without overreaching bleeding of ink or

paint.

10. (Previously Presented) A method for forming a mark according to claim 9, wherein

the mask is formed by one of metal, resin, and paper, wherein the metal comprises one or more

of aluminum, stainless steel, nickel, and silver, wherein the resin comprises one or more of vinyl

chloride resin, polyester resin, and acrylic resin, and wherein the paper comprises one or more of

Japanese paper and western paper.

Serial No.: 09/987,380 Attorney's Docket No.: TOTO0004-US

Art Unit: 2861 Page 3

11. (Currently Amended) A method for forming a mark according to claim 10, wherein the mask is made of the resin, and wherein the ink or paint is soluable with respect to an aqueous aqueous or alkali solution.

## 12. (Cancelled).

- 13. (Previously Presented) A method for forming a mark according to claim 9, wherein pouring of the ink or paint, printing of the same shape as the concave portion or concavo-convex portion, brush painting or solid printing is selected as the coloring method depending on the depth of the concave portion or concavo-convex portion.
- 14. (Previously Presented) A faucet product in which a mark having a desired letter or picture is formed by a method according to claim 9.